

## 1st Cavalry Division Gains Another Star



The commanding general of the 1st Cavalry Division, Maj. Gen. Peter Chiarelli, smacks on Brig. Gen. Michael Jones' first star. Jones, the division's assistant commander for maneuver, was promoted to brigadier general during a ceremony at the division headquarters building June 2. The ceremony was broadcast via video teleconference to Fort Hood, Texas, so his wife, Pat, could share the special day. Jones said he missed his family, but was happy she could see him get promoted.

"The only downside of today is that my family can't be here to share with this...the upside is, although my biological family isn't with me today, my Army family is," Jones said.

By Spc. Bryan Kinkade, 1st Cavalry Division PAO

## Bible Study Lifts Soldiers' Spirits While in Combat Zone

By Spc. Marie Whitney

122nd MPAD

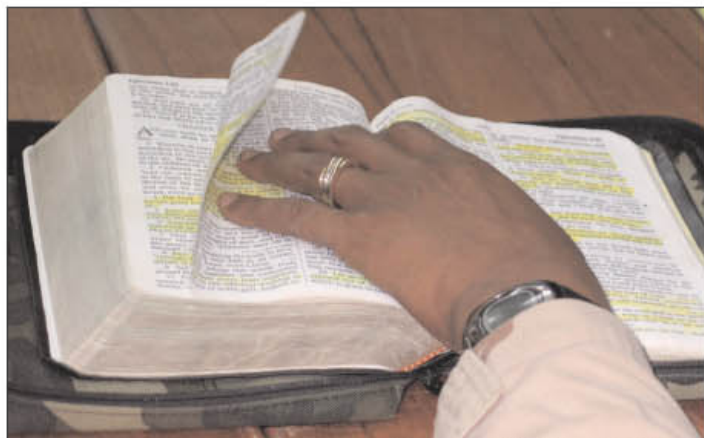
There are many ways Soldiers can find a reprieve from the rigors of working in a combat zone. Some keep their minds busy through reading, calling home or playing video games. Others exercise their bodies by running or working out. But there are other Soldiers who are looking for something else. These Soldiers are looking for some spiritual relaxation. And 1st Sgt. Edwin Kerns, first sergeant for Headquarters Company, 1st Cavalry Division, helps them

to achieve that.

Kerns, originally from Jacksonville, N.C., is the major facilitator and the teacher at a Bible study that takes place at the division chapel on Camp Victory North. Bible study groups are common to have in a combat zone, Kerns said.

"I started doing this about two weeks after I got here," he said. "I was going to hold off and wait to see if anyone else was going to start one, but God put it in my heart not to wait."

The Bible studies are held Mondays, Wednesdays and



By Spc. Marie Whitney, 122nd MPAD

A Soldier refers to his bible during 1st Sgt. Edwin Kerns' Bible study session at the Division chapel at Camp Victory North. Many of the Soldiers present at the session had highlighted points in their bibles and took notes while Kerns spoke.

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# Victory North Post Office Dedicated to Fallen Soldier

By Spc. Michelle Newbold  
1st Cavalry Division PAO

The post office on Camp Victory North was renamed to the Frances M. Vega Army Post Office during a dedication ceremony that took place on Memorial Day. Approximately 100 people attended the outdoor ceremony for Vega.

Vega, an administrative specialist from Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico, serving with the

151st Adjutant General Company (Postal), III Armored Corps, was killed in action when the helicopter she was riding in was shot down near Fallujah, Iraq on Nov. 2.

"Specialist Vega was very outgoing and proud of where she came from," said Spc. Dionn Overton, an administrative specialist who served with Vega. "She was such a beautiful person."

Overton and Vega worked together at Fort Hood, Texas. She remembers leaving Killeen for the first time to go to San Antonio with Vega.

"She made everywhere we went fun," Overton said, reminiscing about Vega.

The ceremony included the unveiling of a portrait of Vega, which is displayed inside the new post office.

"Everyone has talked about her infectious smile," said Lt. Col. Colin Hood, 15th Personnel Services Battalion commander. "You can see it in her portrait."

Vega came from a military



Photos by Spc. Michelle Newbold, 1st Cavalry Division PAO

**Soldiers look at a memorial at the new Spc. Frances M. Vega Army Post Office on Camp Victory North. The post office was named for Vega, an administrative specialist who was killed in action on Nov. 2 when the helicopter she was riding in was shot down near Fallujah, Iraq.**

family. Her husband, Pvt. Abednego Vega II, is a member of Company A, 15th Forward Support Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division. Her father is a retired first sergeant, and her father-in-law is a command sergeant major.

Although her family members were not at the ceremony, Maj. Eluyn Gines, the

15th PSB executive officer, spoke with Vega's mother, Wanda Benitez, and told her about the dedication.

"She was very emotional, but happy," Benitez said.

The ceremony closed with an unveiling of the sign bearing Vega's name.

"She would be proud," Overton said.



**Lt. Col. Colin Hood, 15th Personnel Services Battalion commander speaks to a crowd of more than 100 people at the dedication ceremony for the new post office on Camp Victory North.**

## Useful Iraqi Words/Phrases

|           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| good      | zayn     |
| bad       | muu zayn |
| easy      | sa-hil   |
| difficult | Saab     |
| clean     | na-Dheef |
| dirty     | wa-Sikh  |

**Toby Keith**  
with Special Guest Ted Nugent  
**Saturday June 5 10:30 - 11:45 a.m.**  
Camp Victory North PX Gazebo

### Baghdad, Iraq

#### Saturday

High: 105  
Low: 74



#### Sunday

High: 106  
Low: 76



#### Monday

High: 108  
Low: 78



Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office (SWO)

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## Rose Festival Committee Crowns Queen

► From *The Oregonian*

PORTLAND, Ore.- With a goal of working for the United Nations, Tara Beatty will first get a taste of diplomatic relations in the Realm of Rosaria.

The recent Wilson High School graduate was selected Thursday night as the 2004 Rose Festival Queen at the Fred Meyer Queen's Coronation in the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall before 1,400 family, friends and Rosarians.

It's a dream fulfilled for the Portland native, who tried out for the Junior Court in the fourth grade but was eliminated in the first round.

Just being a part of the 14-member Rose Festival Court has been an honor and worth missing her own graduation Thursday, Beatty said.

Amid the whirring of blow-dryers and hissing cans of hairspray, the backstage scene spoke to the excitement among girls who bonded through hun-

dreds of hours together in the past month as Rose Festival sisters.

The crowning of Portland's newest queen of Rosaria jump-starts the month-long 97th annual Rose Festival.

A panel of judges selected by the Coronation Committee of the Rose Festival Association holds personal interviews with each court member and selects the queen based on character, communication and presence.

Beatty will be the face of Portland to the more than 30 million television viewers nationwide June 12 for the Southwest Airlines Grand Floral Parade, the country's second-largest all-floral parade.

Since 1931, Rose Festival queens have been selected from Portland high schools.

Steeped in tradition, Beatty will be swept away by a gale of activities and public appearances for the next month of her yearlong reign. With the donning of the cape and the



*The Oregonian*

**Tara Beatty wears the crown signifying her selection as queen of the Portland Rose Festival. She even missed her Wilson High School graduation to prepare for Thursday night's coronation.**

presentation of the crown, in use since 1922, the queen presides over the Rose Festival and Rosaria, a mythical realm that belongs to another Portland tradition, the Royal Rosarians.

## Everyone Welcome For Study, Fellowship

**Continued from Page 1**

Fridays from 7:15 p.m. to about 8:45 p.m.

"It's a good way for Christians to get together in fellowship and study the word of God and stay close to God."

Each night the Bible study group covers a variety of different subjects from different books on Christianity. Some of the discussion covers topics directly related to being in a combat zone.

Kerns uses 91st Psalms as one of the scriptures he teaches to the Soldiers. He said it talks

about "How God protects you. How you shouldn't dwell or worry everyday about something happening to you, because you know God is watching over you."

Kerns welcomes questions from the Soldiers before, during and after the Bible study sessions. "If we're talking about something and they have a question about it, I invite them to ask it so it can be answered immediately," Kerns said.

Sgt. Patrick Simon, also from HHC, 1st Cav. Div., has been in attendance since Kerns began the Bible study sessions.

"It's been very inspirational," Simon said. "It makes a big difference. Like I tell [1st Sgt. Kerns], 'I might be late, but I'm going to be there.'"

But Kerns doesn't limit his Bible study sessions to Christians only. Soldiers of all religions are invited to attend; believers or non-believers.

"This group is not just for believers," Kerns said. "Even if a non-believer wants to come, they can come. They never know what they might learn. The bible study is [also] for people of different faiths. I'll never turn anybody away."

## Today in History

### June 5

► From [historychannel.com](http://historychannel.com)

**1944 Allies prepare for D-Day**

**1947 Secretary of State George Marshall calls on the United States to assist in the economic recovery of postwar Europe**

**1949 Bestselling thriller writer Ken Follett is born**

**1967 Six-Day War begins: Israel responds to an ominous build-up of Arab forces along its borders by launching simultaneous attacks against Egypt and Syria**

**1968 Senator Robert Kennedy, a presidential candidate, was shot three times in a hail of gunfire in the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles after winning a major victory in the California primary (he died the morning of June 6)**

**1993 Conway Twitty dies**

## Today in Cav History

### June 5

**1917 - The 24th Cavalry Regiment was organized at Fort D.A. Russell, Wyo., later to become the 82nd Field Artillery.**

**1966 - Operation CRAZY HORSE concluded after over three weeks of fighting between 1st Cavalry Division troopers and members of the NVA Yellow Star division.**



# Old Rivalries, New Contenders Take Center Stage

With apologies to baseball fans from the Sunshine State, when the Florida Marlins won the World Series last year (for the second time in a decade), many of you probably looked at it like I did: fluke.

The Marlins won it all with their best power hitter ailing and on a budget about one-third of the New York Yankees. This year, (surprise!) the Marlins are two games up on the Philadelphia Phillies in the National League Eastern Division one-third of the way through this season.

Baseball this year is full of surprises. In the American League, the Chicago White Sox and the Anaheim Angels sit atop the central and western divisions, respectively, and in the National League, the Cincinnati Reds are 2-and-a-half games up on the Chicago Cubs in their central division race.

The Chicago Cubs, if you recall, are my personal pick to win the National League pennant. It appears that the

National League is the league of parity – there are 11 (!) teams playing .500-ball or better. Of course, everyone's beating up on the lowly Montreal Expos ... this year's version of the Detroit Tigers. Even my Milwaukee Brewers are a game over .500! (It won't last, but I can dream, can't I?)

In the American League, an old rivalry dominates the sports pages this spring. The New York Yankees, my pick to win it all this year and the best team that money can buy, currently holds the best record in baseball. Yet, the Boston Red Sox remain dead even with Steinbrenner's boys.

Perennial all-star Manny Ramirez leads the way for the Red Sox at the plate, currently fourth in the league's hitting race with a .346 batting average. Add to that hefty average 14 homers, 15 doubles and 37 RBI, and you can see the value that Manny



brings to the Bosox.

A guy from Baltimore is leading the AL in hitting so far: one-time utility infielder-turned-all-star outfielder Melvin Mora is hitting a whopping .384, following a breakout year in 2003. His Orioles are even playing .500 ball!

OK, that's all the good news. Here's who stinks so far: the Seattle Mariners, Kansas City Royals, Tampa Bay Devil Rays, Montreal Expos (previously noted), and the Arizona Diamondbacks.

Of that list of stinkers, every team is surprisingly poor, except for two of them: everyone predicted the Expos and Lou Piniella's Devil Rays to be cellar dwellers in their respective leagues. Seattle, though, won more than 90 games last year. This year, they're on a current pace to lose 90!

With the Major League Baseball All-Star Game less than a month away, here are my votes for mid-season accolades:

MSG Dave  
Larsen



Sports Buff

**MVP, National League:** Barry Bonds, San Francisco



Barry Bonds

**MVP, American League:** Manny Ramirez, Boston



**Cy Young, National League:** Roger Clemens, Houston



**Cy Young, American League:** Kenny Rogers, Texas

Kenny Rogers

Next month, we might even start talking about football again.

Until next time: Go Packers!



## TV GUIDE

|         | AFN ATLANTIC                                 | AFN PACIFIC                         | AFN Sports                                      | AFN Spectrum                                |
|---------|--|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| 6 p.m.  | Law & Order                                  | Saturday Night Live ('04) 5:30 p.m. | French Open Tennis- Women's Finals 5:00 p.m.    | An Ideal Husband 5 p.m.                     |
| 7 p.m.  | Headline News/ Navy/Marine Corps News        | Kickin' It                          |   | The View                                    |
| 8 p.m.  | SportsCenter                                 | Horse Racing                        | ESPNews/ NASCAR Busch Series - MBNA America 200 | Burt Wolf's Local Flavors/ A Makeover Story |
| 9 p.m.  | MLB - Philadelphia Phillies @ Atlanta Braves | AMA Motocross                       |   | Trading Zones                               |
| 10 p.m. |  |                                     |   | Trading Zones                               |



MLB

### AMERICAN LEAGUE

New York 7  
Texas 6

Kansas City 5  
Boston 2

Minnesota 3  
Detroit 2

### NATIONAL LEAGUE

Pittsburgh 2  
Chicago 1

Montreal 4  
Cincinnati 2

Florida 5  
New York 1

Philadelphia 9  
Atlanta 1